Novartis Reference: PAT051937-US-PCT

Group Art Unit: 1645

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Examiner: B. J. Gangle

Mariagrazia PIZZA

Serial No.: 10/530,753

Filing Date: (Intl.) October 2, 2003

For: POLYPEPTIDE-VACCINES FOR BROAD PROTECTION AGAINST

HYPERVIRULENT MENINGOCOCCAL

LINEAGES

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114

MAIL STOP: RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated March 25, 2010 (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20100317), for which a response was due on June 25, 2010. This response is filed with a petition and fee for a two-months' extension of time and a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.